Archie ACTION!
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SEGA
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
CHAMPIONS
#4
OF 4
WORLDS UNITE IN 2
KING OF THE RINGS
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG | 271
Tracy Yardley!
+
Hunzeker

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

CHARACTER SELECT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
WORLD HERO

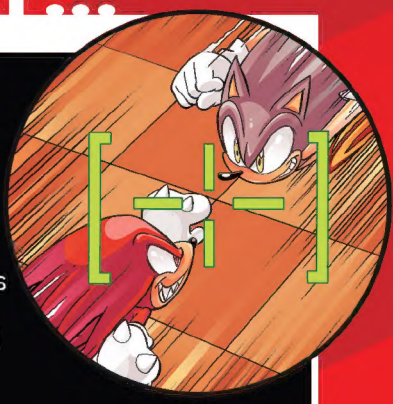
KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA
HUNTING THE MASTER EMERALD SHARDS

BREEZIE THE HEDGEHOG
CASINO & MEDIA MOGUL

THE HOOLIGANS
DIRTY DEALING MERCENARIES

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG

PREVIOUSLY...



FINAL ROUND... FIGHT!

The Casino Park Battle Royal has reached its final round: Sonic versus Knuckles! The prize: a Chaos Emerald, a key part of the Freedom Fighters' plan to save the Shattered World!

But Dr. Eggman is furious that his minions were eliminated. In fact, he's mad enough to start breaking a few rules --
and a few skulls...

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CHAMPIONS

FINALE: THE ONE LEFT STANDING

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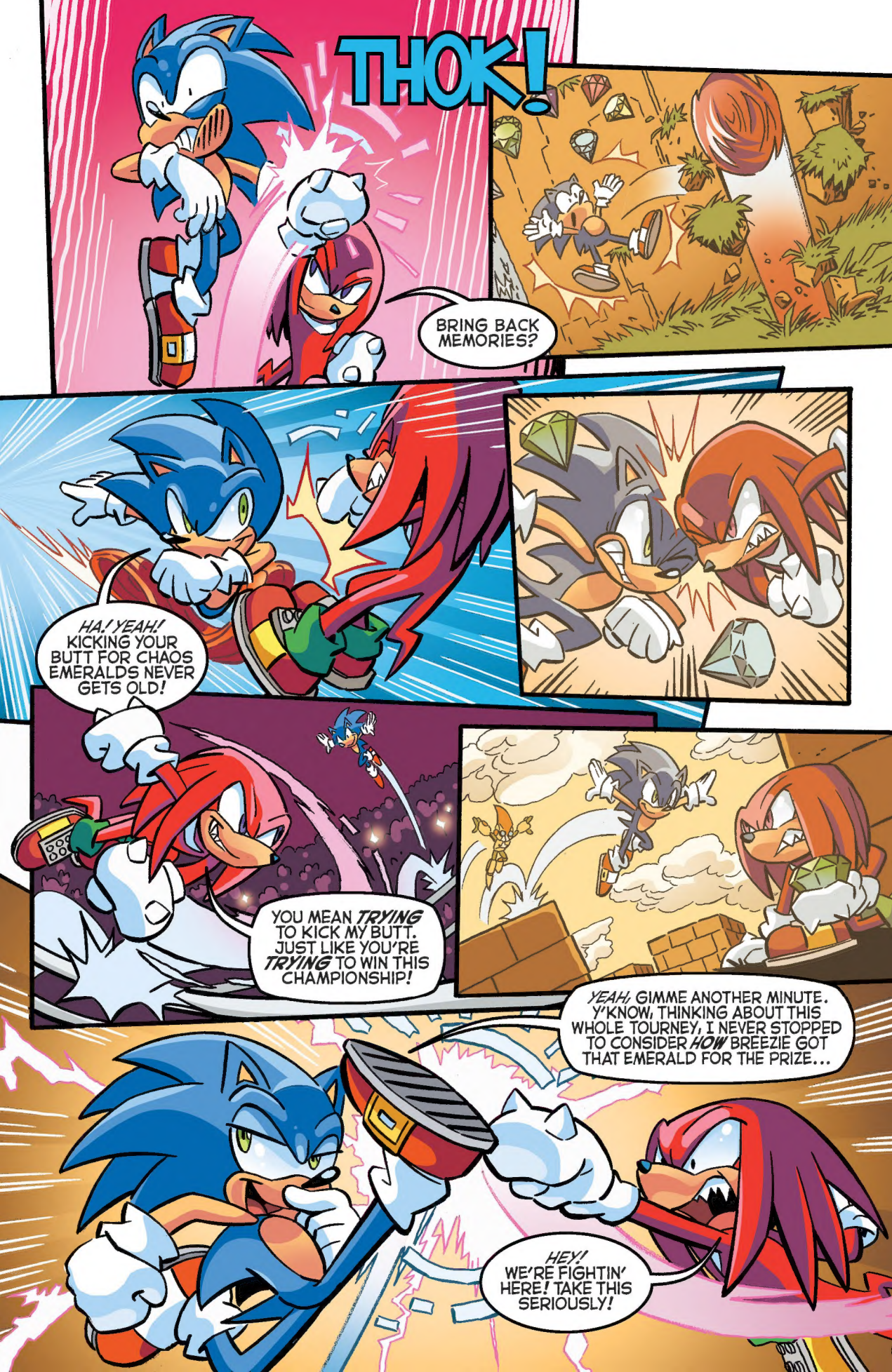
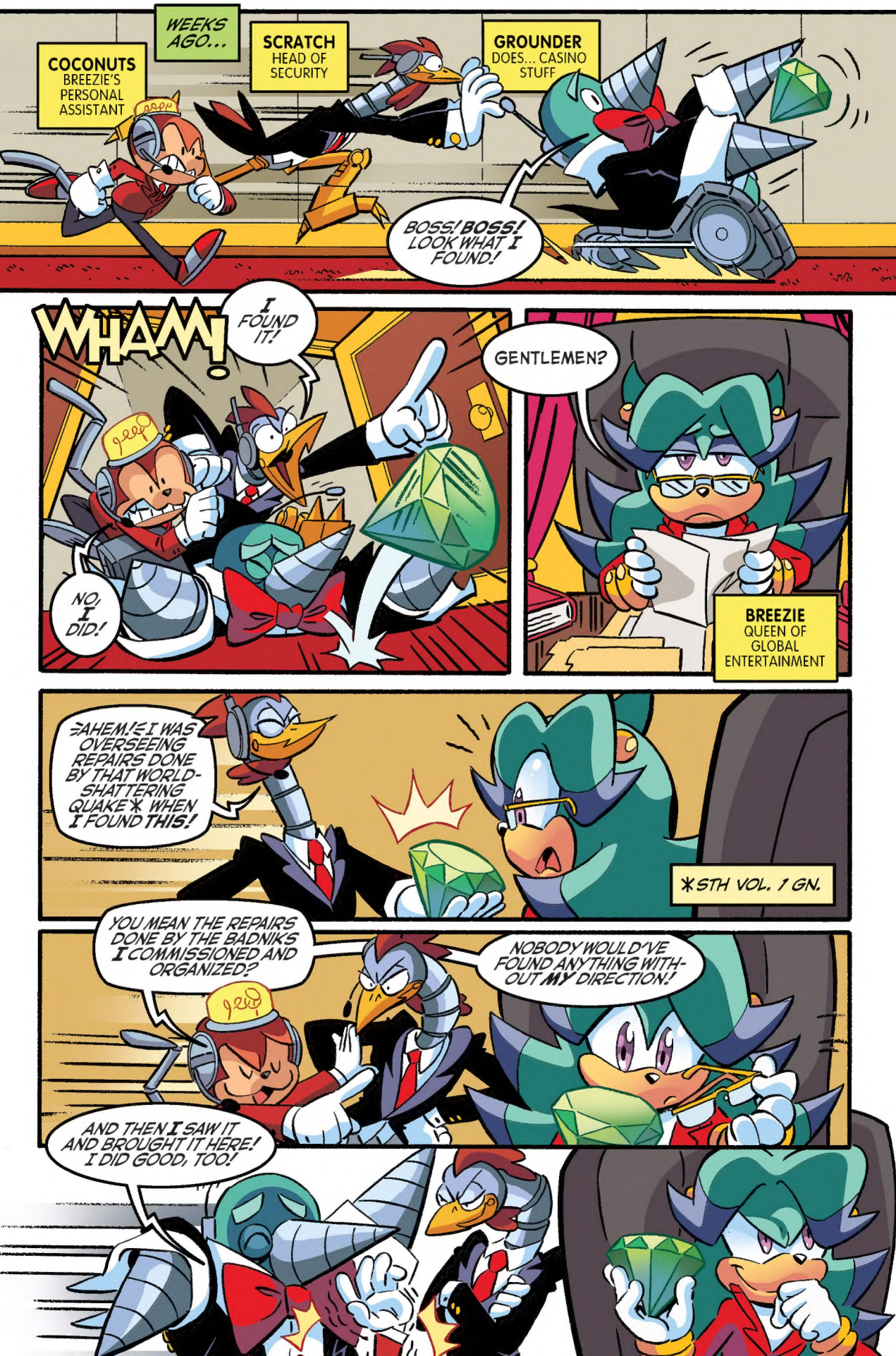
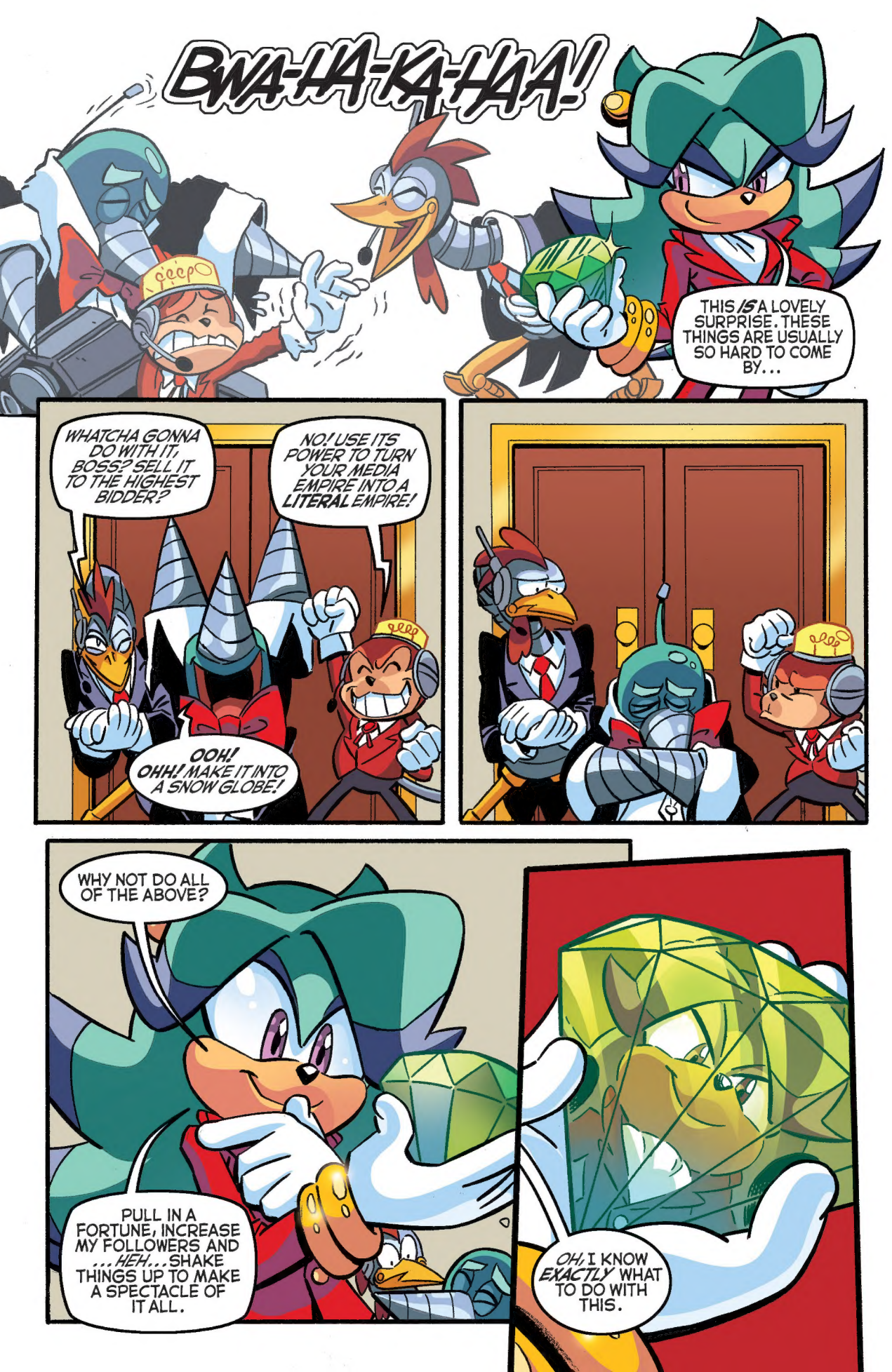
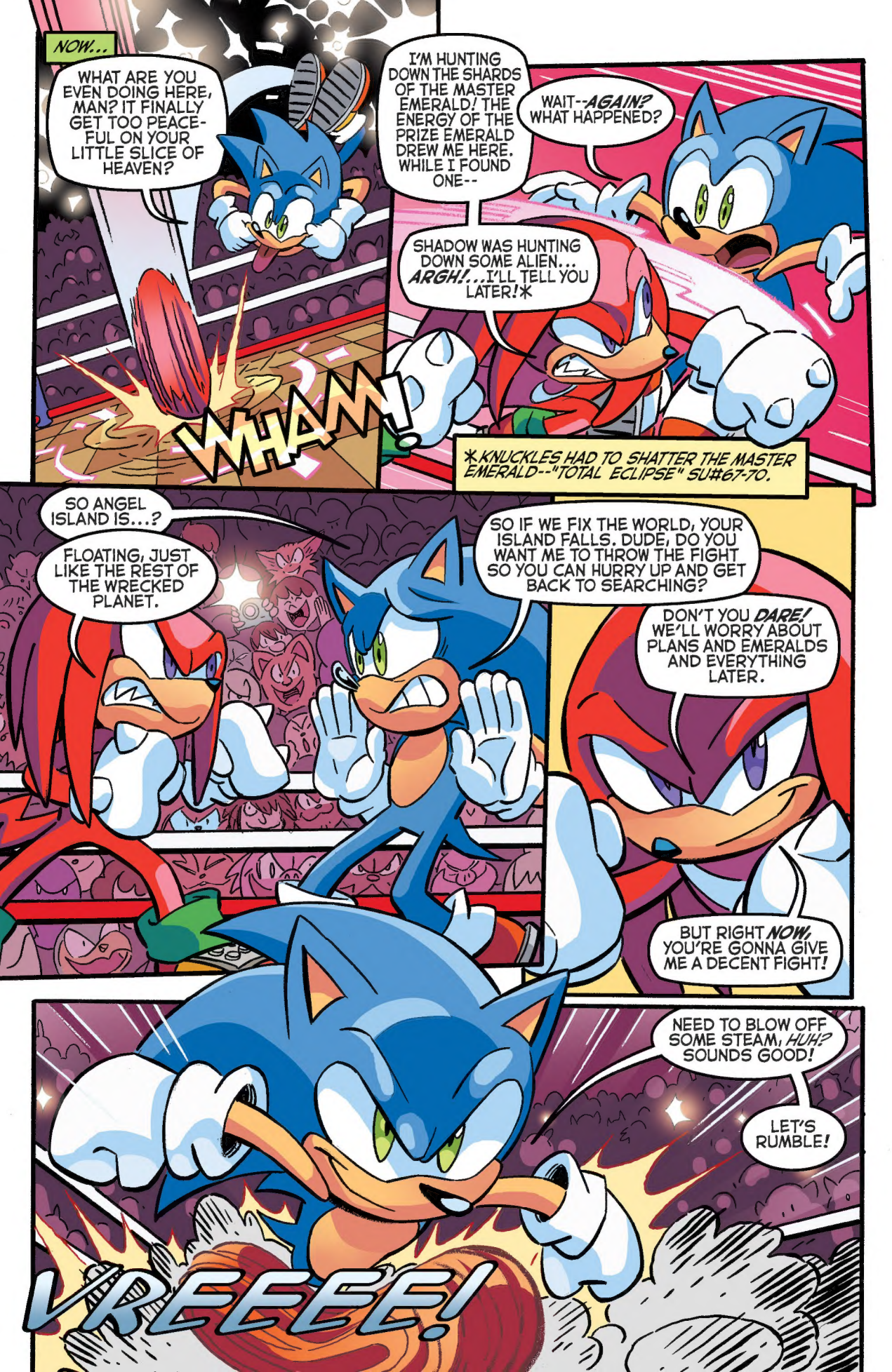
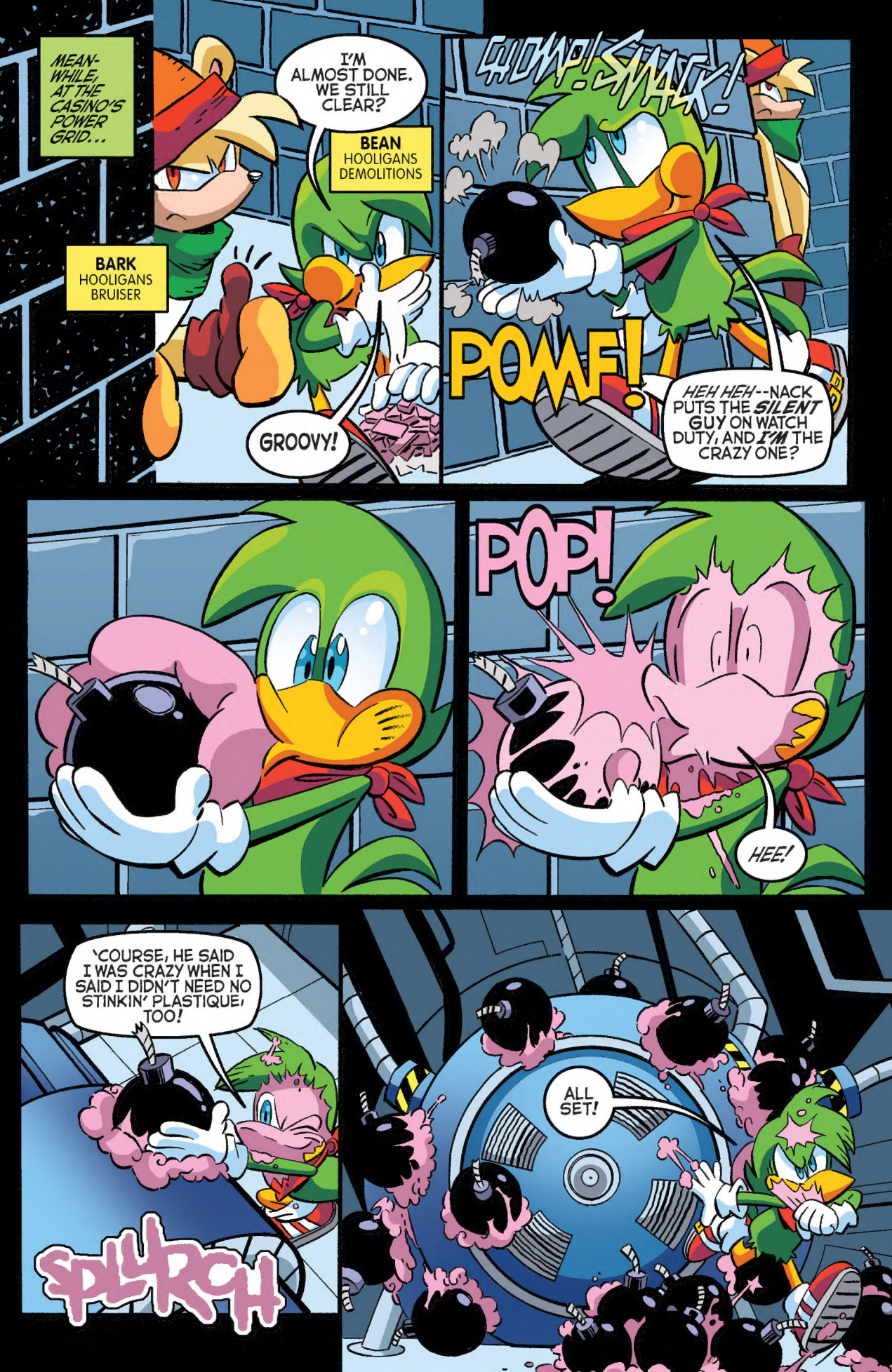

THOK!
BRING BACK MEMORIES?
HA! YEAH! KICKING YOUR BUTT FOR CHAOS EMERALDS NEVER GETS OLD!
YOU MEAN TRYING TO KICK MY BUTT. JUST LIKE YOU'RE TRYING TO WIN THIS CHAMPIONSHIP!
YEAH, GIMME ANOTHER MINUTE. Y'KNOW, THINKING ABOUT THIS WHOLE TOURNEY, I NEVER STOPPED TO CONSIDER HOW BREEZIE GOT THAT EMERALD FOR THE PRIZE...
HEY! WE'RE FIGHTIN' HERE! TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY!


WEEKS AGO...
COCONUTS BREEZIE'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT
SCRATCH HEAD OF SECURITY
GROUNDER DOES... CASINO STUFF
BOSS! BOSS! LOOK WHAT I FOUND!
WHAM!
I FOUND IT!
NO, I DID!
GENTLEMEN?
BREEZIE QUEEN OF GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT
≥AHEM!≤ I WAS OVERSEEING REPAIRS DONE BY THAT WORLD-SHATTERING QUAKE* WHEN I FOUND THIS!
*STH VOL. 1 GN.
YOU MEAN THE REPAIRS DONE BY THE BADNIKS I COMMISSIONED AND ORGANIZED?
NOBODY WOULD'VE FOUND ANYTHING WITHOUT MY DIRECTION!
AND THEN I SAW IT AND BROUGHT IT HERE! I DID GOOD, TOO!

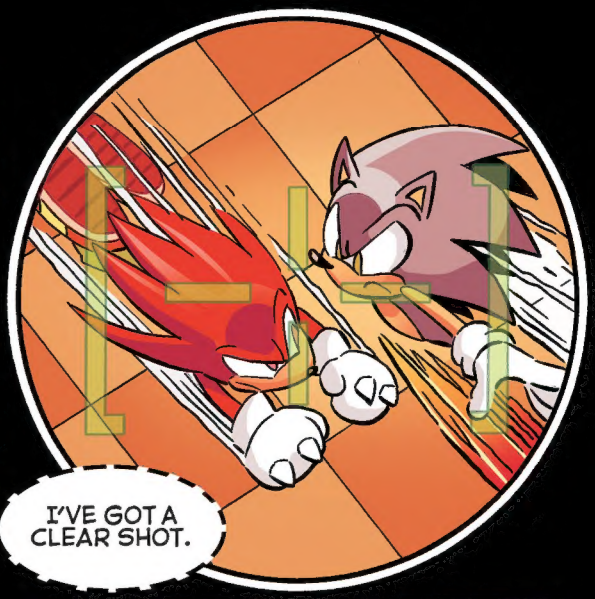

BWA-HA-KA-HA-A!
THIS IS A LOVELY SURPRISE. THESE THINGS ARE USUALLY SO HARD TO COME BY...
WHATCHA GONNA DO WITH IT, BOSS? SELL IT TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER?
NO! USE ITS POWER TO TURN YOUR MEDIA EMPIRE INTO A LITERAL EMPIRE!
OOH! OHH! MAKE IT INTO A SNOW GLOBE!
WHY NOT DO ALL OF THE ABOVE?
PULL IN A FORTUNE, INCREASE MY FOLLOWERS AND ...HEH... SHAKE THINGS UP TO MAKE A SPECTACLE OF IT ALL.
OH, I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT TO DO WITH THIS.


NOW...
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN DOING HERE, MAN? IT FINALLY GET TOO PEACE-FUL ON YOUR LITTLE SLICE OF HEAVEN?
WHAM!
I'M HUNTING DOWN THE SHARDS OF THE MASTER EMERALD! THE ENERGY OF THE PRIZE EMERALD DREW ME HERE. WHILE I FOUND ONE--
WAIT--AGAIN? WHAT HAPPENED?
SHADOW WAS HUNTING DOWN SOME ALIEN... ARGH!...I'LL TELL YOU LATER!*
*KNUCKLES HAD TO SHATTER THE MASTER EMERALD--"TOTAL ECLIPSE" SU#67-70.
SO ANGEL ISLAND IS...?
FLOATING, JUST LIKE THE REST OF THE WRECKED PLANET.
SO IF WE FIX THE WORLD, YOUR ISLAND FALLS. DUDE, DO YOU WANT ME TO THROW THE FIGHT SO YOU CAN HURRY UP AND GET BACK TO SEARCHING?
DON'T YOU DARE! WE'LL WORRY ABOUT PLANS AND EMERALDS AND EVERYTHING LATER.
BUT RIGHT NOW, YOU'RE GONNA GIVE ME A DECENT FIGHT!
NEED TO BLOW OFF SOME STEAM, HUH? SOUNDS GOOD!
LET'S RUMBLE!
VREEEE!

THWAK!
VREEEE!
SOK!
Bet

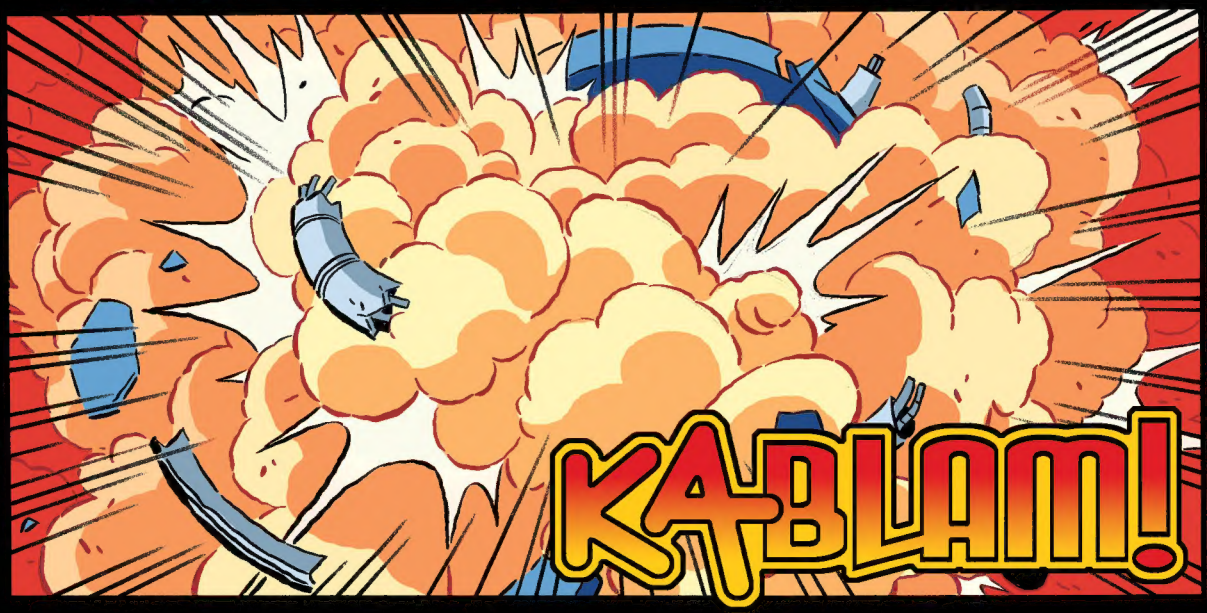

MEAN-WHILE, AT THE CASINO'S POWER GRID...
BARK HOOLIGANS BRUISER
I'M ALMOST DONE. WE STILL CLEAR?
BEAN HOOLIGANS DEMOLITIONS
GROOVY!
HOWP! SMACK!
POMF!
HEH HEH--NACK PUTS THE SILENT GUY ON WATCH DUTY, AND I'M THE CRAZY ONE?
POP!
HEE!
'COURSE, HE SAID I WAS CRAZY WHEN I SAID I DIDN'T NEED NO STINKIN' PLASTIQUE, TOO!
SPLURGH
ALL SET!

ALSO, MY BREATH WILL FOREVER BE MINTY-FRESH NOW.
GRAND. I'M IN POSITION.
NACK
HOOLIGANS SNIPER


I'VE GOT A CLEAR SHOT.

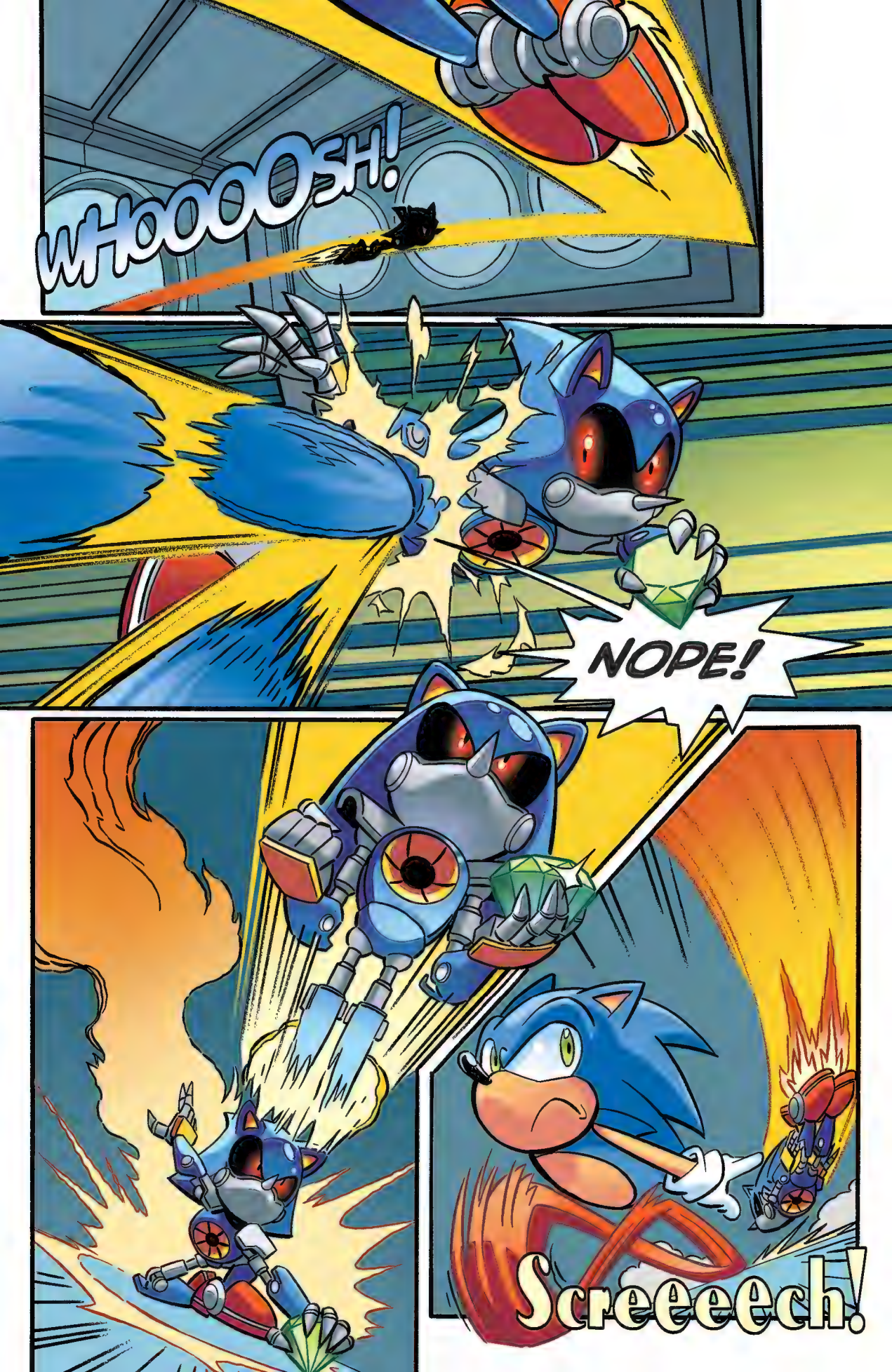
SWITCHING TO INFRARED SCOPE. DETONATE ON MY MARK.
THREE... TWO...ONE... MARK!

TWAIN!

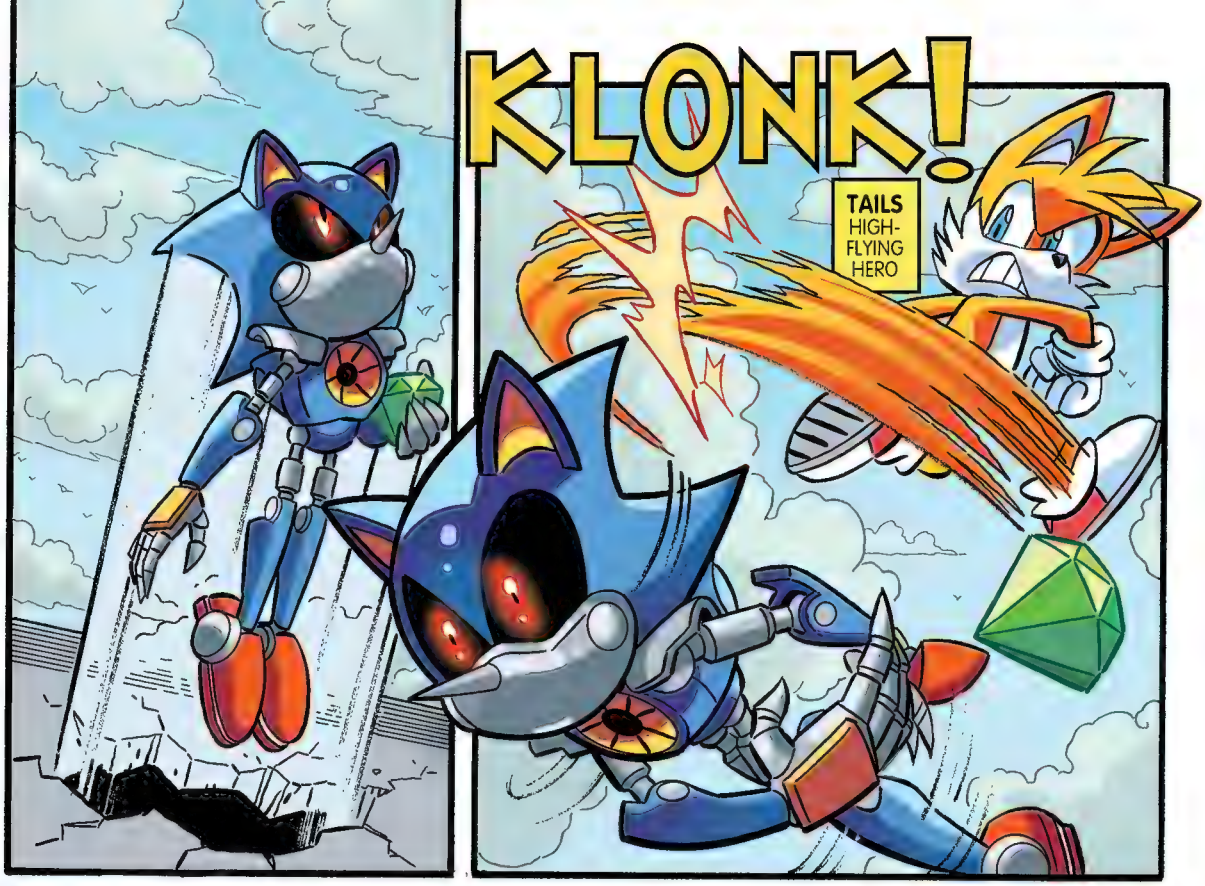

KABLAM!

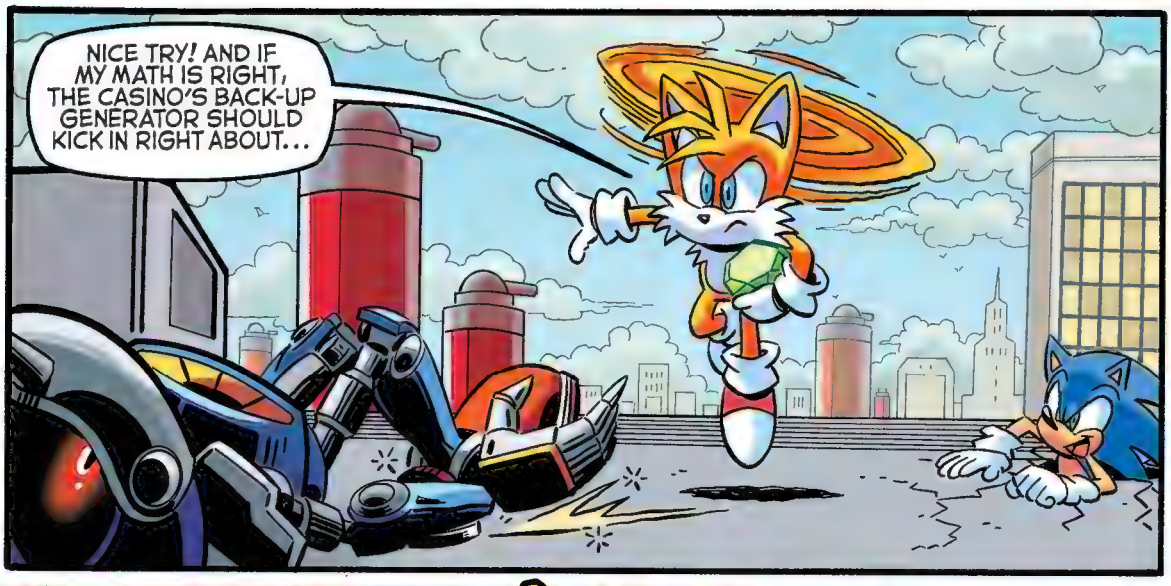
RRRRUMBLE
EEEEK!
UH...IS THIS PART OF THE SHOW?
I DON'T THINK SO, CHUCKLES.
HAHA! RUMOR WAS YOU WERE TRANSFORMING AT NIGHT, SONIC. I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS INTO AN UNMOVING TARGET!
ONE CENTIMETER MORE, AND I'LL GET 'EM BOTH WITH ONE SHOT!
CRASH!
NYAHH!!!
METAL SONIC
EVIL ROBOT DOUBLE
WHOOOSH!
CLUD!

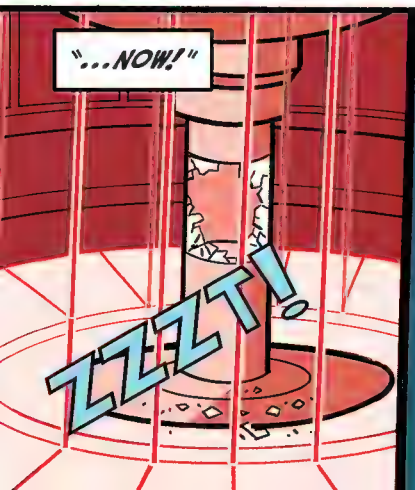
ANALYZING DEFENSES...
MAG-LOCK GATES OFF-LINE. LASER GRID OFFLINE.
SECURITY STAFF ...MISSING.
VAULT DOOR IS...OPEN?
CREEEEEEEAK!
SLAM!
CRASH!


WHOOOOSH!
NOPE!
Screeeech!

SCREEEEK!
AMY ROSE
HAMMERER
PIKO!
ESPIO
CHAOTIX
NINJA
SHING!
SKRRRRTU
HONEY
FASHION
DIVA


KLONK!
TAILS HIGH-FLYING HERO


NICE TRY! AND IF MY MATH IS RIGHT, THE CASINO'S BACK-UP GENERATOR SHOULD KICK IN RIGHT ABOUT...


"...NOW!"
ZZZT!

SLAM!
ZZZZT!

KA-CHAK!

SO...ARE WE GONNA DO THIS? I MEAN, FIGHT ON THE ROOFTOP WHERE YOU TAKE ON US...
...AND FOUR OTHER PROFESSIONAL BUTT-KICKERS...

...WHILE *ALSO* FIGHTING ALL OF BREEZIE'S SECURITY FORCES?

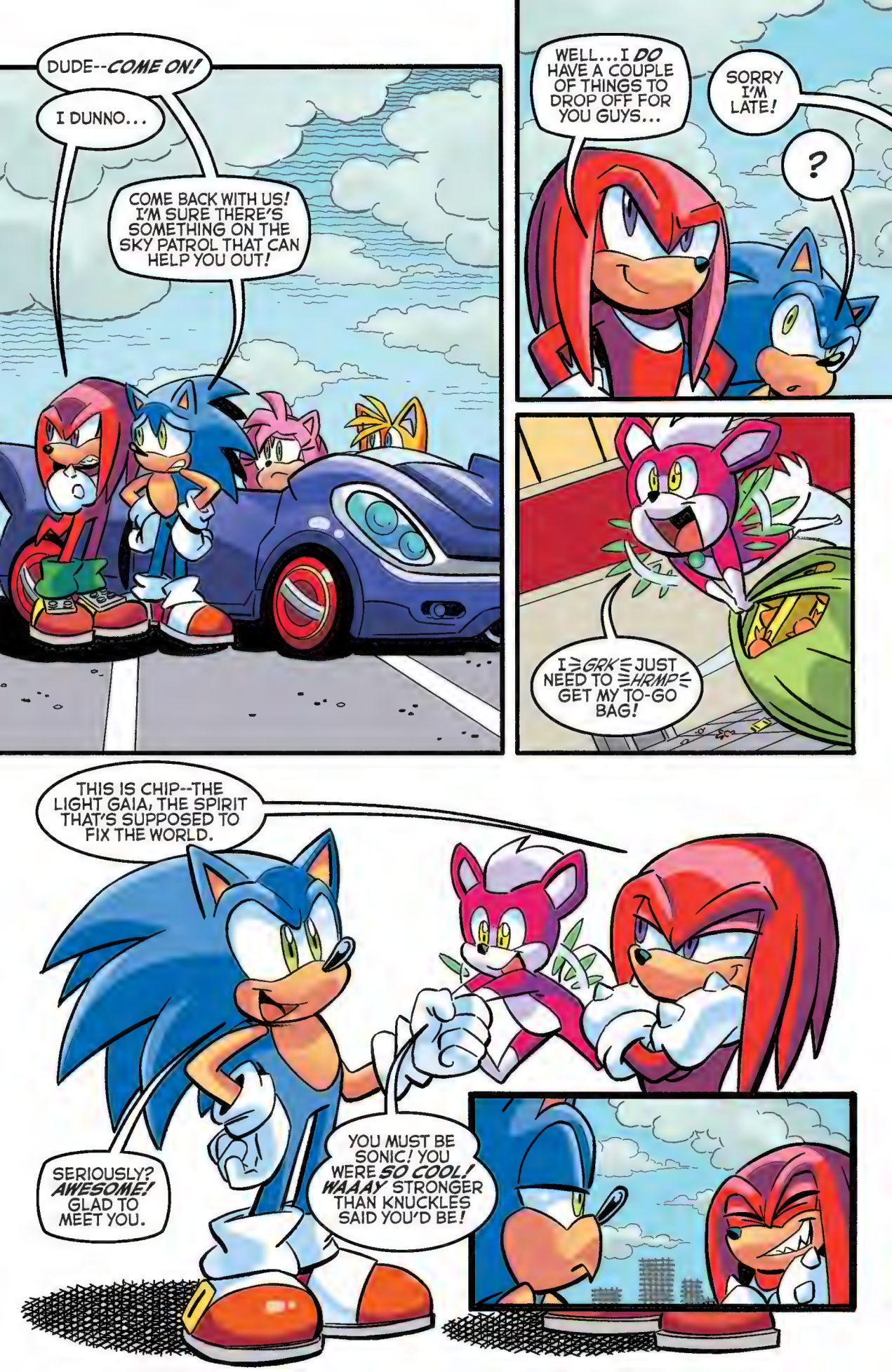
BAH! THIS ENTIRE SITUATION HAS BEEN A DISASTER! GET BACK TO THE DEATH EGG FOR REPAIRS! I'VE GOT A LEAD ON ANOTHER EMERALD!
DID YOU HEAR ME? I SAID, FALL BACK!

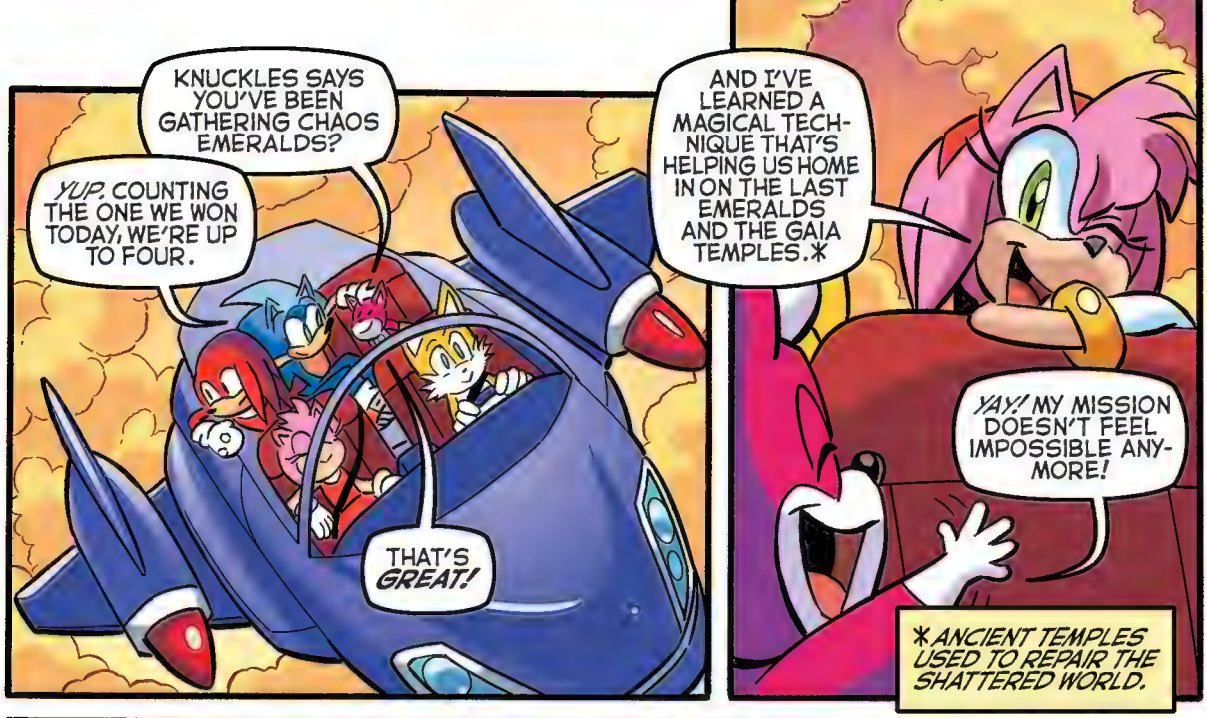
BWOOSH!

AND THE WINNER--BY MAKING METAL SONIC LOOK LIKE A TOTAL CHUMP--
MILES "THE TURBO TWIN-TAILED GENIUS" PROWERRRRRR!

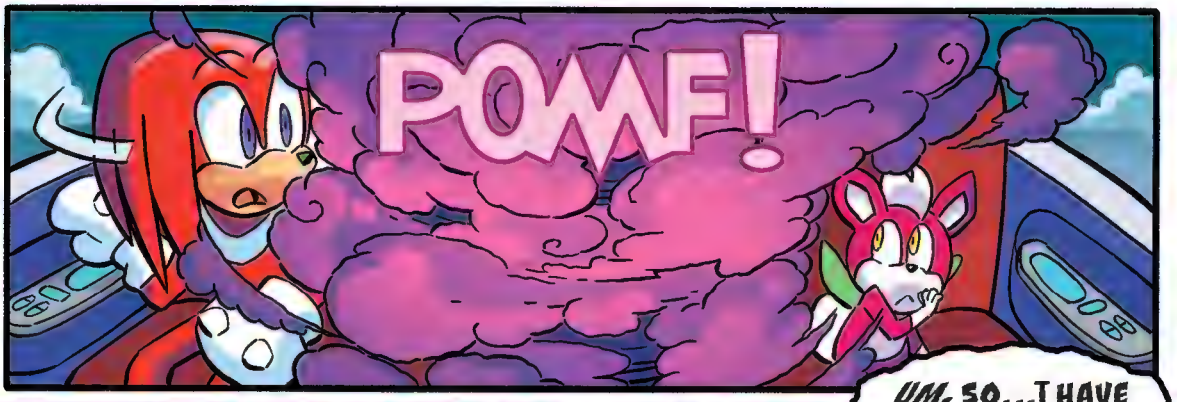
AND SO...
...AAAAAND THERE! YOUR WAIT STAFF WILL BE EXCLUSIVELY OUTFITTED BY HONEY BRAND CLOTHING!
HOW EXCITING! I'VE NEVER DESIGNED CLOTHES FOR ROBOTS BEFORE.
I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU, HONEY. YOU REALLY IMPRESSED ME DURING THE TOURNAMENT.
IS THAT A FACT?
OH, YES. PUTTING YOUR REPUTATION--AND NECK--ON THE LINE? GIVING IT YOUR ALL TO GET WHAT YOU WANT? I RELISH A PARTNER WITH THAT KIND OF INITIATIVE.
WELL, NOW THAT WE'RE SO CLOSE, CAN I SAY SOMETHING?
OFF THE RECORD.
BUSINESSWOMAN TO BUSINESSWOMAN.
YES?
IT'S NO SECRET DOCTOR EGGMAN WANTED THAT CHAOS EMERALD. SUDDENLY, THREE "RANDOM" MERCS WITH EGGMAN CONNECTIONS GET ADDED TO THE BRACKET OVERNIGHT.
THEN, WHEN THEY GET BUMPED, METAL SONIC SHOWS UP. NONE OF YOUR OUTSIDE SECURITY STOPS HIM. NONE OF YOUR INSIDE SECURITY IS AROUND. THE HOOLIGANS BLEW THE POWER AND GOT AWAY SCOT-FREE, AND NOT ONE OF YOUR BADNIKS TOOK A SHOT AT METAL SONIC AS HE ESCAPED.
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS CAME REAL CLOSE TO LOSING WHAT THEY NEED TO SAVE THE WORLD.

THE HOOLIGANS ARE EXPERT PROVOCATEURS, AND METAL SONIC IS A FINE EXAMPLE OF ROBOTIC PERFECTION. IT'S DISAPPOINTING, BUT NOT SURPRISING, MY SECURITY WASN'T ENOUGH.
AND ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, I WAS LOSING THE CHAOS EMERALD. BUT WITH SIX HEROES DESPERATELY TRYING TO STOP A LAST-MINUTE ASSAULT BY A DEADLY SUPER-ROBOT...WELL, I GOT THE ATTENTION OF THE *ENTIRE WORLD.*
THIS ENTIRE TOURNAMENT WAS MOST LUCRATIVE, MY DEAR. SHATTERED OR WHOLE, I'M NOW WORTH *HALF* THIS PLANET.
THAT'S...QUITE THE SHREWD MINDSET YOU'VE GOT THERE.
TAKE IT TO HEART. YOU TOOK OUT TAILS IN SHORT ORDER TO ADVANCE. I *KNOW* YOU'LL SEE THE WISDOM OF MY WORDS SOON ENOUGH.
HAHA! WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT! NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME--I'VE GOT ORDERS TO FILL!
TA-TA! I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU!

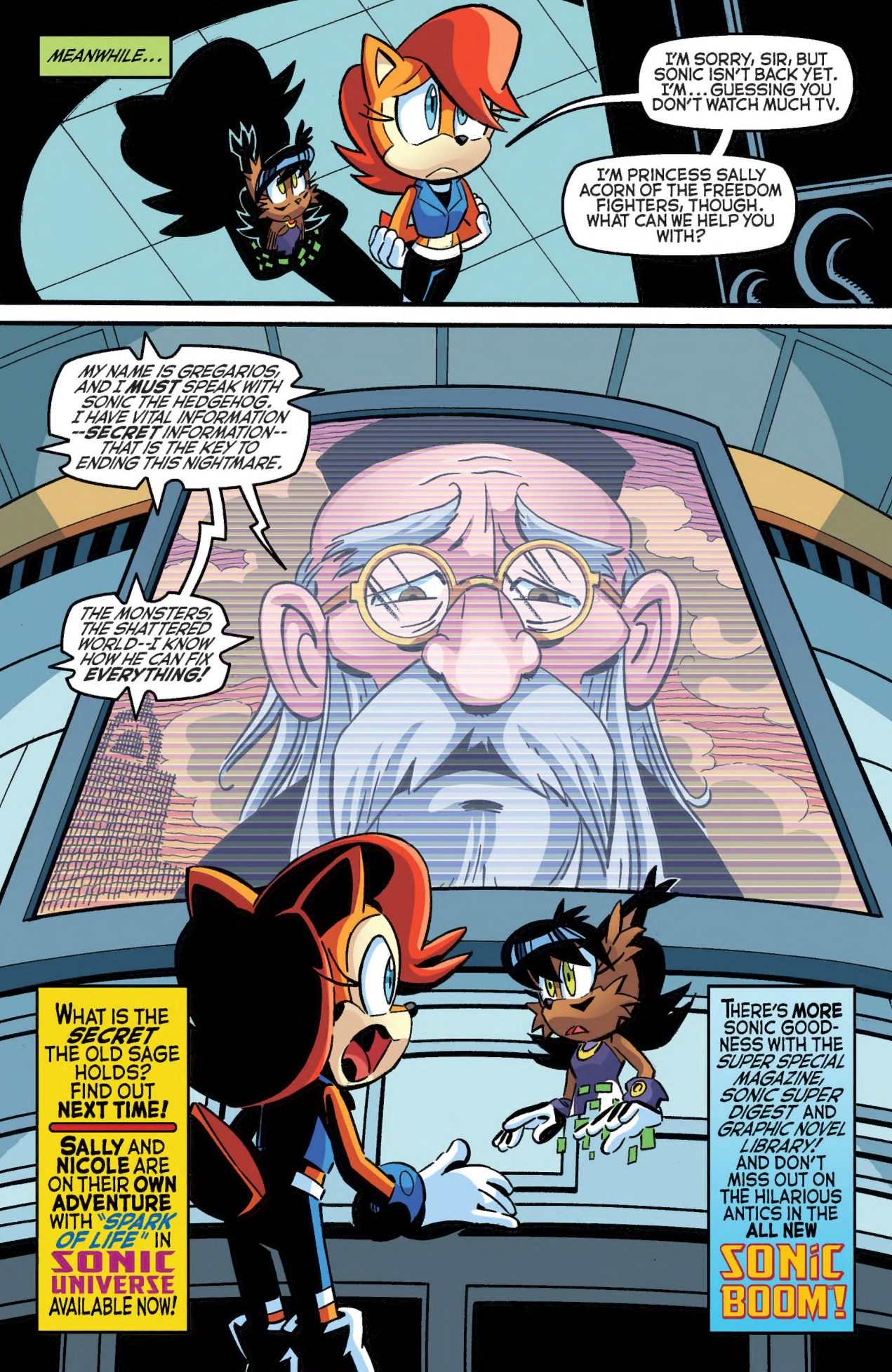

DUDE--COME ON!
I DUNNO...
COME BACK WITH US! I'M SURE THERE'S SOMETHING ON THE SKY PATROL THAT CAN HELP YOU OUT!
WELL...I DO HAVE A COUPLE OF THINGS TO DROP OFF FOR YOU GUYS...
SORRY I'M LATE!
?
I ≥GRK≤ JUST NEED TO ≥HRMP≤ GET MY TO-GO BAG!
THIS IS CHIP--THE LIGHT GAIA, THE SPIRIT THAT'S SUPPOSED TO FIX THE WORLD.
SERIOUSLY? AWESOME! GLAD TO MEET YOU.
YOU MUST BE SONIC! YOU WERE SO COOL! WAAAY STRONGER THAN KNUCKLES SAID YOU'D BE!


KNUCKLES SAYS YOU'VE BEEN GATHERING CHAOS EMERALDS?
YUP. COUNTING THE ONE WE WON TODAY, WE'RE UP TO FOUR.
THAT'S GREAT!
AND I'VE LEARNED A MAGICAL TECHNIQUE THAT'S HELPING US HOME IN ON THE LAST EMERALDS AND THE GAIA TEMPLES.*
YAY! MY MISSION DOESN'T FEEL IMPOSSIBLE ANYMORE!
*ANCIENT TEMPLES USED TO REPAIR THE SHATTERED WORLD.

ARE YOU GUYS ALWAYS THIS AWESOME?! I MEAN, IS THERE ANYTHING GOING WRONG AT THIS POINT?


POWF!

UM, SO...I HAVE THIS CONDITION...


MEANWHILE...
I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT SONIC ISN'T BACK YET. I'M... GUESSING YOU DON'T WATCH MUCH TV.
I'M PRINCESS SALLY ACORN OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, THOUGH. WHAT CAN WE HELP YOU WITH?
MY NAME IS GREGARIOS, AND I MUST SPEAK WITH SONIC THE HEDGEHOG. I HAVE VITAL INFORMATION --SECRET INFORMATION-- THAT IS THE KEY TO ENDING THIS NIGHTMARE.
THE MONSTERS, THE SHATTERED WORLD--I KNOW HOW HE CAN FIX EVERYTHING!
WHAT IS THE SECRET THE OLD SAGE HOLDS? FIND OUT NEXT TIME!
SALLY AND NICOLE ARE ON THEIR OWN ADVENTURE WITH "SPARK OF LIFE" IN SONIC UNIVERSE AVAILABLE NOW!
THERE'S MORE SONIC GOODNESS WITH THE SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, SONIC SUPER DIGEST AND GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY! AND DON'T MISS OUT ON THE HILARIOUS ANTICS IN THE ALL NEW SONIC BOOM!

SONIC GRAMS FAN ART

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Kellox. from The Netherlands

Alyssa G. from Texas

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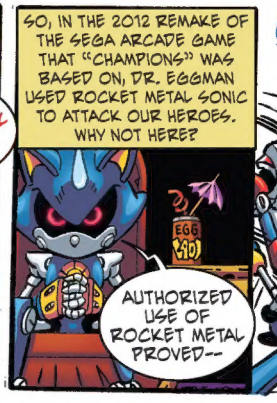
OFF PANEL

SCRIPT: JONATHAN H. GRAY PENCILS: LAMAR WELLS
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN COLORS: STEVEN LISEFSKI



SONIC GRAMS PRESENTS: A Letter from the EDITOR

Attention: Sonic fans! Hear ye, hear ye!

It's my privilege to officially introduce to you your new **Sonic the Hedgehog** comics Editor -- Vincent Lovallo!

Vin has been working on these books for years now as Assistant Editor to yours truly, and his brilliant work has helped to transform the comics you hold in your hands month after month into the pristine works of art that they are today. And believe me, the awesomeness you've got coming up in the next few months courtesy of Mr. Lovallo is going to blow you away! I couldn't be happier or more proud to have worked with Vin, and he's about to become the best Archie Action editor ever!

Thanks to everyone who made my time as Editor a great one — especially to Mike Pellerito, who set a shining example of how to do this job and do it well. Also a big thanks to Victor Gorelick who hired me all those years ago, Jon Goldwater who makes publishing these wonderful titles possible, everyone at Archie who has pitched in to help over the years, to SEGA, especially Rene and George, for all their support, and to the incredible talent I got to work with on these titles! Chatting with Ian Flynn, Tracy Yardley, Patrick Spaziante, Matt Herms, Jack Morelli, John Workman, Jim Amash, Terry Austin, Rick Bryant, Ryan Jampole and so many others is always the highlight of my day! And last but not least, thanks to you the reader and all the fans who have written to us, said hello at shows, and supported these titles through five crazy years of expansion, change and epic new heights. You pals 'n' gals are the best.

Long story short, get ready for big action, tons of laughs and LOTS of adventure as Vin takes the reigns.

To quote Mike, "the best is yet to come!"

Paul

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
SONIC UNIVERSE
SONIC BOOM
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL
SONIC SUPER DIGEST
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG ARCHIVES
SONIC SELECT
SONIC SAGA SERIES
BEST OF SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

COMING SOON!

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 272

PROTECTOR